April 22, 2004

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, DC 20231

PROTEST UNDER 37 CFR 1.291(a)

Re: Dynamic document context mark-up technique implemented over a computer network

US File # 20020120505

Filed: August 29, 2001

Sirs:

Recently I found the above referenced patent filing and believe this filing has NOT issued in the U.S. The US File # is 20020120505

I am voicing an objection as a concerned third party and as a U.S. Citizen. The patent filing describes at great length an advertising delivery system using a database (0056) (0079) containing keywords (0007) and advertisements retained and maintained at the client level in cache or on disk (0075) (0076) in a client-server ad delivery system. (0007) (0032) This patent application relates to displaying advertising by matching voluntary user actions, i.e. keywords resulting directly from the user voluntarily selecting websites to visit (0007) or interfacing with another executable client program (0053) as triggers related to displaying advertising. Matching a trigger event in the "context analysis engine" (0067) makes a comparison with data in the remotely controlled and updated (0075) (0076) (0206) database and in the event a match is made, appropriate content or advertisement is displayed. This is referred to as "pull" advertising as a voluntary action on the part of a user interacts with a pre-established database and a targeted ad is displayed.

The abstract reads in part, "A technique is disclosed for generating markup information to be displayed on a client computer system. The client system includes memory configured to store at least one update file which comprises keyword information relating to keywords suitable for markup. In one implementation, the update file is generated at a remote server system and downloaded to the client system. When a new document (e.g. a web page) is displayed on the client system to an end user, selected context associated from the document is analyzed for selected keywords. In a specific implementation, the selected keyword information is provided by an entity other than the end user. Using the selected keyword information, specific context in the document is selected to be marked up. According to a specific embodiment, the selection of the document context to be marked up may be performed at the client system. Markup operations are then implemented at the client system on at least a

portion of the selected document context, thereby resulting in marked up document context which has a visual appearance that is different than the appearance of the initial parsed context. Additionally, a pop-up advertisement may be automatically displayed on the client system based upon the identified context in the document. When the user clicks on a portion of the marked up document context, the user may be redirected to a target URL which was not included as part of the initial parsed document context. Alternatively, a pop-up window or layer which includes a plurality of different links may be displayed to the user."

Relevant Claims are #1, 3, 16, 18 and others in which the inventor refers displaying ads or keywords stored at the client level as "campaign data" (0245) and displaying them based on triggering events. Descriptive paragraphs occur in (0007) (0008) (0032) (0044) (0053) (0056) (0057) (0075) (0076) (0079) (0197) (0206) (0245) and others.

I am objecting to this patent application as it is neither novel nor unique. It is of particular note that no prior art was submitted nor does the Application include references to systems that were commercially offered in 2001. The filers are correct that a targeted system based on voluntary user entries, user history and keywords is more accurate and excels in its ability to deliver "relevant" ads at the exact moment of interest. However, the filers did not include the following references:

- 1. US Patent 6,141,010 ... equivalent technology
- Gator.com (recently changed to Claria.com) has been marketing such a system since 1998
- 3. WO9955066 (A1) or EP1076983 (A1) ... equivalent technology

There may be more prior art preceding the 9/29/2001 filing.

I believe the Examiner should look very closely at the Claim made and reject this Application that has been described in numerous prior art.

🕒 United States Patent: 6,141,010 : Netscape
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United States Parent 6,141,019
Hoyle October 31, 2000
Computer interface method and apparatus with targeted advertising
Abstract
A method and apparatus for providing an automatically upgradeable software application that includes targeted advertising based upon demographics and user interaction with the computer. The software application is a graphical user interface that includes a display region used for banner advertising that is downloaded from

time to time over a network such as the Internet. The software application is accessible from a server via the Internet and demographic information on the user is acquired by the server and used for determining what banner advertising will be sent to the user. The software application further targets the advertisements in response to normal user interaction, or use, of the computer. Associated with each banner advertisement is a set of data that is used by the software application in determining when a particular banner is to be displayed. This includes the specification of certain programs that the user may have so that, when the user runs the program (such as a spreadsheet program), an advertisement will be displayed that is relevant to that program (such as an advertisement for a stock brokerage). This provides two-tiered, real-time targeting of advertising—both demographically and reactively. The software application includes programming that accesses the server on occasion to determine if one or more components of the application need upgrading to a newer version. If so, the components are downloaded and installed

without requiring any input or action by the user.



